

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. SD-7173/S98785
SERIAL NO. 10/671,116
PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17-19, 21-25, 27, 28, and 30-32 have been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17-19, 21-25, 27, 28, and 30-32 for various informalities. Applicant has amended these claims herein to correct the noted informalities. Applicant respectfully submits that 1-32, as amended, are in allowable form and requests reconsideration.

Claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as unpatentable over the IDS paper entitled "A New, Topology Driven Method for Automatic Mask Generation from Three-Dimensional Models" authored by R. Schiek and R. Schmidt. This reference was written by the inventor (Richard Schiek) of the present application and published by the assignee (Sandia Corporation) of the present application. Additional authors listed on this reference contributed only to the work of authorship and not to the invention, and so were not deemed to be inventors. Therefore, the invention was not known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent. Applicant respectfully submits that 1-32, as amended, are in allowable form and requests reconsideration.


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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-32, as amended, are allowable and requests notice to that effect.

Further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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